

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 00881 041512Z

53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

NIC-01 EB-07 COME-00 FEAE-00 DOTE-00 INT-05 TRSE-00

OMB-01 AGR-05 CU-02 NEA-09 /094 W

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R 041420Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1875

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NZ, RO

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ROMANIA

1. BOTH ROMANIAN AND BRITISH (WHO HANDLED ADVANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRIP) SOURCES HERE AGREE THAT FEBRUARY 23-25 VISIT OF NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER ROWLING TO ROMANIA WAS LITTLE MORE THAN SYMBOLIC HIGH-LEVEL "FIRST STEP" IN THE STILL TENDER RELATIONSHIP BEGUN, AT ROMANIAN INITIATIVE, IN 1969 WITH SIGNING OF A JOINT COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT. WHILE LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS APPARENTLY DISCUSSED, ROWLING DID MEET WITH CEAUSESCU AND MOST OF TOP ROMANIAN LEADERSHIP. ACCENT WAS ON INCREASING BILATERAL TRADE WITH FUTURE COOPERATION IN ENERGY AND TRANSPORT, EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES, MACHINE CONSTRUCTION, PETROCHEMICALS, WOOD INDUSTRY AND IN PARTICULAR AGRICULTURE (SHEEP RAISING, GENETICS, IRRIGATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT)

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 00881 041512Z

BEING SINGLED OUT FOR ATTENTION AND/OR EXCHANGE OF

SPECIALISTS. A VISA FACILITATION AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AND NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE ON A LONG-TERM COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT, AS WELL AS ON A TECHNICAL-ECONOMIC ACCORD, AN AGRICULTURAL ARRANGEMENT" AND A CULTURAL ACCORD. NO AGREEMENT ON RESIDENT EMBASSIES SEEMS IMMINENT WITH FINANCES CITED AS THE PRIMARY OBSTACLE TO SUCH A DEVELOPMENT.

2. COMMENT: THE ROWLING VISIT IS ANOTHER PLUS FOR THE ROMANIANS IN THEIR EFFORT TO EXTEND THEIR

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS. A CHART IN THE SAME ISSUE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WEEKLY LUMEA, WHICH DESCRIBES THE ROWLING VISIT, ALSO PROUDLY SHOWS THAT WHILE IN 1947 ROMANIA MAINTAINED DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR RELATIONS WITH ONLY ONE STATE (IRAN) IN THE ASIAN AND SOUTH PACIFIC AREA, TODAY THE TOTAL IS 32. FROM THE NEW ZEALAND SIDE, ROMANIA, WITH ITS WELL KNOWN POLICY OF NATIONAL COMMUNISM, UNDOUBTEDLY REPRESENTED A SUITABLE VEHICLE FOR ROWLING'S PROCLAIMED INTEREST IN EXTENDING NEW ZEALAND'S RELATIONS THROUGHOUT EUROPE. THE BRITISH HERE RECEIVED THE IMPRESSION THAT A CEAUSESCU VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND WAS A POSSIBILITY WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, MFA TOLD INDONESIAN DCM THAT ALL OF THE STOPS FOR THE APRIL TRIP HAVE NOW BEEN ANNOUNCED (PHILIPPINES, JAPAN, KUWAIT, JORDAN, AND TUNISIA) AND IF NEW ZEALAND WAS TO HAVE BEEN INCLUDED, THE ROWLING VISIT COMMUNIQUE WOULD HAVE BEEN THE NATURAL PLACE TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

BARNES

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